

### **Current Status of the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A stage well for a microscope stage comprising:  
a housing, said housing attached to said stage and configured to extend below said stage;  
an inner sleeve fitting within said housing such that it rotates within said housing; and,  
a shelf extending transversely within said inner sleeve.
2. (original) The stage well as recited in Claim 1 wherein said housing further comprises a flange.
3. (original) The stage well as recited in Claim 2 wherein said flange defines at least one hole adapted to receive a fastener.
4. (original) The stage well as recited in Claim 1 further comprising:  
a groove defined by a wall of said housing; and,  
a handle extending through said groove, wherein said handle is secured to said inner sleeve.
5. (original) The stage well as recited in Claim 4 wherein said groove is vertical.
6. (original) The stage well as recited in Claim 4 wherein said groove is helical.
7. (original) The stage well as recited in Claim 4 wherein said handle is threadably secured to said inner sleeve.
8. (original) The stage well as recited in Claim 1 wherein said shelf further comprises a center indicator.

9. (currently amended) A microscope stage assembly comprising:

a revolving stage, said revolving stage having a center opening; and,  
a stage well placed within said center opening, said stage well having:

a housing, said housing extending below said revolving stage;

an inner sleeve fitting within said housing such that it rotates within said housing;

and,

a shelf extending transversely within said inner sleeve.

10. (original) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 9 wherein said housing further comprises a flange.

11. (original) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 10 wherein said flange defines at least one hole adapted to receive a fastener.

12. (original) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 9 further comprising:

a groove defined by a wall of said housing; and,

a handle extending through said groove, wherein said handle is secured to said inner sleeve.

13. (original) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 12 wherein said groove is vertical.

14. (original) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 12 wherein said groove is helical.

15. (original) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 12 wherein said handle is threadably secured to said inner sleeve.

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16. (original) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 9 wherein said shelf further comprises a center indicator.

17. (new) A microscope stage assembly comprising:

- a revolving stage, said revolving stage having a center opening; and,
- a stage well placed within said center opening, said stage well having:

- a housing;

- an inner sleeve fitting within said housing such that it rotates within said housing;

- a shelf extending transversely within said inner sleeve.

- a groove defined by a wall of said housing; and,

- a handle extending through said groove, wherein said handle is secured to said inner sleeve.

18. (new) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 17 wherein said groove is vertical.

19. (new) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 17 wherein said groove is helical.

20. (new) The microscope stage assembly as recited in Claim 17 wherein said handle is threadably secured to said inner sleeve.